AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-19. (Canceled)

20. (Previously Presented) A method of forming a thin light polarization film comprising the steps of:

(a) depositing a layer of photochemically stable azodye in an isotropic phase on a substrate,

(b) illuminating the azodye layer with actinic radiation to define a principal absorption axis of said azodye layer,

(c) applying a thin layer of an isotropic absorber solution onto said azodye layer to thereby produce a lyotropic liquid crystal,

(d) partially evaporating said solution to form a gel, and

(e) baking said gel to form an anisotropic absorber layer.

21. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 20 wherein said actinic radiation is linearly polarized and the principal absorption axis of said azodye layer is orthogonal to the polarization vector of said actinic radiation.

22. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 20 wherein said actinic radiation is non-polarized and is incident on said azodye layer at an oblique angle.

23. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 20 wherein the azodye layer is illuminated through a mask whereby only selected regions of said layer are aligned.

24. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 23 wherein the azodye layer is illuminated through several masks in sequence whereby different regions of said azodye layer may be formed with different alignment axes.

25. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 20 wherein said azodye layer is formed with a plurality of pixels.

26. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 25 wherein said pixels include at least two different alignment axes.

27. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 25 wherein all said pixels are formed with the same alignment axis.

28. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 20 wherein said azodye layer is illuminated through a photo-patterned mask that transforms linearly polarized or non-polarized actinic radiation into actinic radiation having a spatial distribution of polarization vectors.

29. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 28 wherein said photo-patterned mask is a light polarization mask.

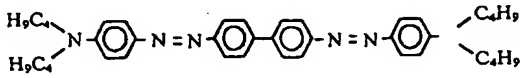
30. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 29 wherein said photo-patterned mask is a birefringence mask.

31. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 20 wherein more than one absorber material is provided and different absorbers are chosen with different colors.

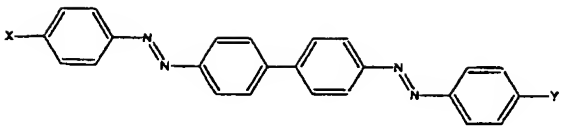
32. (Canceled)

33. (Canceled)

34. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 20 wherein the azodye has the structure:

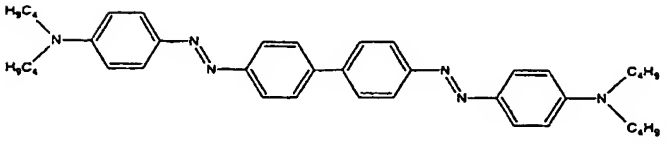


35. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 20 wherein the azodye is selected from the group of dyes having the structures:

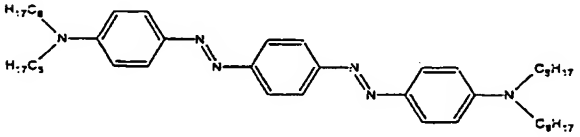


X, Y=-NR, -N(R)$_2$, -R; where R=Alkyl(C_1-C_{18})

(1)



(2)



(3)

36. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 20 wherein said azodye material is deposited in a layer of from 0.05 to 1.5μm thick.

37. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 20 wherein said absorber material has a thickness of from 0.3 to 1.5 μm.

38. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 20 wherein said thin light polarization film is formed on a substrate forming an inner surface of a liquid crystal cell.

39. (Withdrawn) A thin light polarization film deposited on a substrate and comprising a plurality of pixels, wherein said pixels are formed with different axes of polarization.

40. (Withdrawn) A liquid crystal cell comprising a liquid crystal material received within front and rear substrates, wherein an internal surface of one of said substrates is formed with deposited thereon a thin light polarization film as claimed in claim 37.

41. (New) A method as claimed in claim 34 wherein the azodye layer is illuminated through a mask whereby only selected regions of said layer are aligned.